CASKEY, L. D.

see- MUSEUM OF FINE

1,5.5 1917-1931

see- MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON

(Fine Art (Boston, also)

September 21st, 1917.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Curator of Classical Art,
Museum of Art,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:-

The accumulation of work has prevented my writing you since my return as promptly as I had anticipated.

With respect to the "bloom" on the Greek silver pieces, Mr. Newell tells me that his experience has been that the best treatment is as follows:-

He allows them to remain in a weak solution of ammonia overnight, then they are removed and allowed to dry without rubbing. If any brushing is to be done, it should be done with a soft hair brush used very delicately. He thinks the effects of light will have entirely disappeared under this treatment after the pieces have been kept in the dark for a few weeks, but on re-exposion to the light, it will again appear.

With regard to the plan you mention for the New England Classics Teachers' Association, we can see no reason why it would not be possible for the Association to acquire a fairly representative collection of Greek coins in the original at a slight cost per member. Mr. Newell expressed his willingness to co-operate by placing at their disposal such duplicates as he may now have at the price that they cost him. To avoid any complication whereby Mr. Newell might seem to appear as a dealer, he provides that his connection must remain known to you alone. Inasmuch as he is a careful buyer with wide experience your Association would be having the benefit of his knowledge, and would probably secure the pieces at a much lower cost than they could through dealers and

without the risk which that would involve. Such a selection as we have suggested might be made for two hundred dollars or even less. If your Association-members could arrange some plan whereby each should select and pay for a single piece, which should remain in the exhibition until such time until it was distributed, would you not have solved the problemn ? Then by arranging a definite schedule for the movement of the collection, the only additional cost which would accrue to each school or professor using it would be the expense of moving it from its previous exhibition point, and as this could be done by registered or insured mail, the amount would be very small. By supplementing such a collection with a judicious number of casts of rare pieces, the educational value would be increased. If you will suggest this plan to the other members of your committee, after some adaptation it might be favorably received.

Permit me to express my appreciation of the courtesies extended me while at the Boston Museum - my visit there was one long to be remembered.

Yours very sincerely,

Secretary and Librarian.

October 15th, 1919.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Curator of Classical Art,
Boston Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:-

When Mr. Wood was in Boston about two weeks ago he tried to secure impressions of some of your Greek coins but owing to your absence it was impossible. You will recall that I took impressions of the six early Tarentum pieces with the figure of the seated Cekist for M. Vlasto. I made casts of them and sent them to him but they were lost in the mail, and he has just written to ask me to send duplicates to him.

If you will use the boxes which Mr. Wood left with you, and merely make the impressions in the wax and send them to me packed so that they will not be ruined in transportation, I should greatly appreciate it. We can then make the casts here and send them to M. Vlasto.

I hope we shall see you if you get to New York this winter.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASS.

Oct. 24, 1919

My dear Mr. Noe,

Mr. Wood's request was not ignored, but things move slowly here and the delay was increased by my falling sick. I am glad to be able to report, however, that plaster casts of the six Tarentine coins were sent to Mr. Vlasto in Marseilles about a week ago. So you need no longer keep that matter on your mind.

I have also caused to be sent to you (I might have sent them to Mr. Wood) two plaster casts of the Athenian tetradrachm he wanted, and also two plasticine impressions of the same coin in one of the pill boxes he left. I hope these will fill the bill.

If you have further commissions dont fail to make your wants known, and we will try to attend to them more promptly.

Sincerely yours,
L. D. Caskey

October 25th, 1919.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Boston Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:-

Thank you for your letter of the 24th. I am very sorry that you have been ill. It is an expensive way of taking a vacation in these days of high costs.

Thank you for sending the casts to Mr. Vlasto - he was quite undone because the first lot failed to reach him, and thank you also for your offer to be of further assistance should we need it. I wish you would stir up some enthusiastic student of Greek coins in Boston so that we could reciprocate by doing something for you or him.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

April 15th, 1920.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Curator, Classical Department,
Boston Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:-

Under separate cover I am sending you the small box containing the casts of the gold coins which you showed me while I was in your office, and I have added Mr. Wood's notations on the cards as well as some indication of value. The Greek pieces seem rarer than I had at first thought, but I was unable to find one that has been sold which is exactly like the Athenian piece, nor can I find any price for the one of Tigranes. Perhaps the price I mention in connection with these was low. In any event, if you take all or part of the pieces, I feel sure Mr. Newell would like to have the refusal of the remainder, and he could give you a better estimate of their market value.

I greatly enjoyed my visit to the Museum and thank you very cordially for your courtesies to me.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary.

April 16th, 1920.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Curator, Classical Department,
Boston Museum of Fine Arts,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:-

Under separate cover I am sending you the small box containing the casts of the gold coins which you showed me while I was in your office, and I have added Mr. Wood's notations on the cards as well as some indication of value. Two of the Greek coins seem suspicious, the Athens piece and that of Tigranes. If you can hold the coins until Mr. Newell comes his word would be final. Mr. Wood says that he would like to buy numbers 3 and 4 (the Great Seljukes Dinar and that struck at Baghdad in 331).

The title of the book by Svoronos of which I spoke is "L'Hellénisme Primitif de la Macedoine prouvé par la Numismatique et l'Or du Pangée". It is published by Leroux of Paris, as a reprint from the "Journal International".

I greatly enjoyed my visit to the Museum and thank you very cordially for your courtesies to me.

Very respectfully yours,

Secretary.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASS.

May 3, 1920

Dear Roe,

Many thanks for your prompt and business-like performance of that favor which I thrust upon you. The impressions came all right, and will doubtless, with the accompanying notes satisfy the owner.

Sincerely yours,

L. S. Casky

October 13th, 1921

[illegible], Esq.
Curator of Classical Art
[illegible]
[illegible], Penn.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

In regards [illegible] recall the other day, he told me that the [illegible] by the American Archaeological Institute in Thessaly [illegible] in the Fall of [illegible]. Do you know what these are? And whether the [illegible] is carried?

The [illegible] from the [illegible] Expedition have been [illegible] but it would seem to be a very fitting [illegible] to have the others also, if they are not [illegible] by the Boston [illegible].

Can you give us any light on the situation?

Very truly yours,

Secretary

[illegible]

October 28th, 1921

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

If you have received a request from Mr. E. J. Saltzer of Cambridge, Ontario, for casts of Athenian plaques, prior to [illegible], may I say that we have here a set of these plaques which you loan for Mrs. Brett, who has consented to release them for Mr. Saltzer.

I am writing to you because it is quite evident that awaiting a response from Mr. Saltzer. We have other early plaques, and these of course we would not lend, but I thought we might save you some trouble by telling you about the Athenian series.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

S/S.S

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASS.

Oct. 31, 1921.

Dear Mr. Rose,

If Mrs. Brett is willing to have those casts of Athenian coins (which she kindly offered) sent to Seltman, and if you will send them it will be a great relief to my mind.

For we have no one here now who is skilful at doing this sort of work; but I want to be sure to be ready to comply with Seltman's request when I can get around to it.

As regards the Cyrene coins Mr. Fairbanks tells me that there are in the museum two or three copies of the large pull of coins which we have brought back, and that he says he remembers that they should be duplicates with you if you want them. So now we have a chance to compare with them over and probably send them on. I don't know whether they are of much interest.

Sincerely yours,

L. D. Caskey

September 4, 1931

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Curator of Classical Art
Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Dear Mr. Caskey:

I am glad to have your letter of October 11th
and the photographs concerning the Corneto excha.

I shall hope to see you when you are

I will send by, whichever route we have
spoken, one if there are further points relative to this,
will write to you. I shall be in Boston.

I am glad to note that you received some of the
copies and would enjoy to visit me over a few days
with you.

With cordial remembrances, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

LDC:E

January [illegible], 1914.

[illegible], Esq.
[illegible] Museum of Fine Arts
[illegible]ston, Mass.

Dear Mr. [illegible]:

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON

April 28, 1922.

Dear Noe,

I have just noticed in the Catalogue of coins to be sold in ~~[illegible]~~ Lucerne on June 17th & next two Demareteia one of both of which belong to Evans, and I am wondering whether you can give me some information about them. As you know we have a rather good collection of Syracusan coins, and it would be nice to add a Demareteion. We have no idea what prices these will bring, nor whether their preservation is good. The illustrations suggest that the heads on both are pretty much worn. The finer one (317) seems the better of the two. Have you any data about these coins. The specimens, prices paid at Sicilian sale, &c., & any advice you would feel like giving in case this Museum should make an attempt to get one?

I have hastily glanced at the catalogue and there are some coins of Mende that would make my mouth water, and make me wish I were a millionaire. Sincerely yours,

[illegible]

May 2nd, 1922

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

Your letter of April 28th interested me very much and I hope you will spare no effort in trying to obtain a Demaretelon. I doubt that both belonged to Mr. Evans for I think he would have shown me the two of them, as he [illegible], if he had two.

I will look up our cards to see if there is any price [illegible] have elapsed since the last sale in which one appeared, [illegible] terion. Hirsch has sent us an estimate of the prices which he thinks the coins ought to bring. And on these two he quotes Nr. 15 - 8,000 to 10,000 Mill francs, and for Nr. 17, from which the reproduction [illegible] sharper, 7,000 to 11,000 francs. You must remember, however, in turning this into American money, that there is a portion of ten per cent upon the amount the piece brings, and that Hirsch charges five per cent for executing commissions. Also, as the Swiss franc is now a little above par - today's quotation being 19.38, it is best to reckon on 22½¢ to 23¢ for each franc.

Your series of Syracusan coins at Boston is so exceptionally fine that it is earnestly hoped that you will be successful in securing one or the other of the Demaretelia. I think their preservation is not as desirable as might be, but on the other hand most of the known specimens are already in Museum possession and are not likely to come under market again.

[illegible] May 2nd, 1922

- 1 -

I have your letter of [illegible] about the price of [illegible]. A few of these interesting [illegible] about two or three years ago, and those pieces are probably worth [illegible]. I have [illegible] but some already, and Mr. Durell had them offered to him at prices which usually rose with each offer, and they reach from $2,000 to $3,000 [illegible]. Mr. Durell recently [illegible], however, has had difficulty [illegible] because [illegible] I should like a little more [illegible] of a specimen in the possession of one of [illegible] - T. Leyte Ignacio. This he was holding at $150.00, and I suggested that he send you a part of it. Though not so handy [illegible] as the others in this sale, his price is a very reasonable one and I thought you might care to consider it.

Pierce's [illegible] for the [illegible] are as follows:

[illegible]	[illegible] yrs.	[illegible]	[illegible] yrs.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

As you will see, Pierce is not over-modest in his valuations, but the prices on the Wright Gale seem by no means unreasonable and the owner may bring what he is suggesting for them.

Have you looked at the Cyclone Blower to discover whether you like them all? There are so many of them that they are likely to offer reasonable prices.

With cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

[illegible]/f

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

BOSTON, MASS.

Feb. 17. 1925

Dear Mr. Noe,

I wonder if you will pardon me for bothering you with a question about two coins. A Greek brought in some coins found in Lesbos which he would like to sell for a friend in Greece. Two of them are Lampsacus Hemidrachs, Babelon I p. 379, no. 640. In a hasty search I did not find these in the BM catalogue nor in Hist. num. I am therefore wondering whether by any chance they are rarer. The other two, also AR, have the forepart of a lion on the obverse (see above rough sketch) and a quadripartite incuse square on the reverse. I cannot identify these.

I sent the man home with the coins, but told him I would write you about them. Are they worth anything? Do you want to buy them? Do you know any one who would? Ought we to buy them? If so, at what price? Would you like to have the man send them to you for inspection? Probably they are not worth bothering about.

Sincerely yours,

L. D. Caskey

February 19th, 1925

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

I showed Mr. Newell your letter, and we think from your description that the coins about which you write would hardly add anything to the Boston Museum's Collection. If the owner is willing to send them to us by registered mail, it is just possible we may make an offer for them, and they can be returned within a short time in case we do not want to purchase them, and he would be under no obligation to accept our offer. Did he name any price in talking with you?

Yours sincerely,

Secretary

January 16th, 1926

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

Under separate cover, I am sending you some receptacles containing wax. Will you be so good as to make impressions of Alexander, the Molossian of Epirus, which are in your possession. These are desired by M. Plaute in connection with the board which he has recently examined.

If you will freely coat the plaster with the talcum powder which accompanies it, it will be a simple matter to get the impressions, and you can just recover the box and send it back to me in the same receptacle.

This seems the simplest way of handling the matter; and the whole should not require more than a few minutes of your time.

I hope to see you some time during the coming months - but just when, it is impossible to say.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASS.

Jan. 22, 1926.

Dear Noe,

Your box of paraphernalia arrived yesterday. I have just made impressions of the one coin of Alexander, Son of Neoptolemos, of Epeiros, which we have, and will send it to Athens. It is 00.212 = Perkins no. 231.

Regling 733 was among the coins sold at auction, and not acquired by this Museum.

I hope you will pay us a visit before long.

Is Newell at home at present? I want to consult him about something, and am wondering whether I could see him if I succeed in getting to N.Y. again in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

L. D. Caskey

February 26th, 1926

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey;

Will you kindly give me the weight of the stater of Alexander of Epirus - Perkins, 231? You will recall that an impression of it was sent me recently.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

April 27, 1928

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Curator, Classical Dept.
Boston Museum, Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

Will you kindly transmit to Miss Nelson, the memorandum concerning a coin of Aspendus, about which she asked me when I was in Boston.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

NATURAL BRIDGE RANCH
PAYSON, GILA CO., ARIZ.

July 16th 1928.

To the
Principal in the
Roman & Fine Art Dept
of the Museum of Fine Arts
Boston -

Dear Sir

I have a Roman "regal" Arab. struck in the reign of "Emperior Hadrian who reigned in A.D. 97.1 -

Should like to know if it is valuable, & if so - what value to a Collector - am will to sell, if I can find a buyer

Yours very truly.
(Mrs.) Lilian Goodfellow

P.S.
It is in perfect preservation & beautifull work.

NATURAL BRIDGE RANCH
PAYSON, GILA CO., ARIZ.

Aug 2nd 1928

To Mr L. A. Castray,
Museum of Fine Arts
Boston.

Dear Sir

Am sending you a wax impression of my seal. It is not a coin, as you will see.

I had a collection of Roman coins & sold them many years ago—

But I know that this seal is rare & genuine. The material is "Chalcedony". & belongs to the quartz family — very hard. The work marvelous & I have been told it is very valuable. Am enclosing stamps for the return of ptg. Very truly yours

M. K. Collins Woodfellows

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sept. 7, 1918.

Dear Noe,

Is it illegitimate, as well as unkind, to pass on to you the problem of Mrs. Lillie's Goodfellow, of Natural Bridge Ranch, Gila Co. Ariz?

Here are her two letters. I am sending her wax impression of the chalcedony, intaglio. I also enclose the stamps she sent for the return of the impression to her. Would you also be so good as to do that?

I have written her that I am passing the bride to the Am. Num. Soc. I have also stated to her my impression that the chalcedony is likely to be modern, copied from an actual bronze coin of Nerva. I hope that you and Newell and Wood can between you solve this problem which baffles me.

Sincerely yours,

L. B. Cosby

11th September, 1928

L. D. Caskey, Esq.,
Curator of Classical Art,
Boston Museum

Dear Mr. Caskey:

Your letter and the impression of Miss Goodfellow's 'seal' have both been received. My opinion would be worth nothing, so I am waiting until Mr. Newell comes in before responding to the lady. We have dozens of inquiries of a similar nature so we shall hold no grudge against you for having forwarded this one.

With cordial regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

13th September, 1928

Mrs. Lillias Goodfellow,
Natural Bridge Ranch,
Payson, Ariz.

Dear Madam:

Your letters of July 16th and August 2d to Mr. Caskey at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts have been forwarded to us by him for our opinion of the seal of which you send a wax impression. We are returning this wax impression under separate cover. We quite concur with Mr. Caskey's expression of his belief that this is not an ancient cutting but one made possibly within the last three or four centuries and probably of Italian workmanship.

I regret that I am unable to refer you to any one who would desire to purchase your seal.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

NATURAL BRIDGE RANCH
PAYSON, GILA CO., ARIZ.

Sept 18th 1928.

Mr. L. D Cashing.

Dear Sir

I ought to have given you more definite information about that seal - when I sent you the impression.

The seal - is a genuine old Roman seal - of the date it states on impression my husband ploughed it out of the ground in the site of an old Roman camp in Northumberland England - about 40 Yrs ago - when we were living there —
We are Scotch — & have been here 31 Yrs.
at the time my husband found the seal he asked the opinion of the British Museum, they said it was no doubt genuine but they were not allowed to put a value on any thing. If they

did so - They would have to buy an efficient force, doing nothing else!

You can if I am not giving you too much trouble - find this information to the Faculty you have sent the impression too

Yours very truly
M. B. Lillis Goodfellow

NATURAL BRIDGE RANCH
PAYSON, GILA CO., ARIZ.

Feb 19th 1928.

Mr. S. P. Hoe.

Dear Sir

Your note received Yesterday — I had just written to Mr. Cathey — giving him a little information, which I should have sent him, when I sent the impression of the seal.

There is no doubt of the genuineness — that has been assured long ago — We are Scotch, & about 40 years ago, we were living in the North of England, & there in the site of an old Roman Camp, the seal was ploughed up — I have had it ever since It would be the height of folly for any one to make a thing like that, for no purpose what ever

NATURAL BRIDGE RANCH
PAYSON, GILA CO., ARIZ.

I we know that the Romans were in Britain at that time.

The British Museum said it was a royal seal — I gave no full reading of the abbreviations on the seal.

Am not giving you this information in the hope of selling — only to show you that it is just what I said it was — a beautiful article

Sincerely
Mrs Lillian E. Goodfellow

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Sept. 20, 1928.

Dear Roe,

Here is another letter from Mrs. Goodfellow which seems to establish the antiquity of her chalcedony seal. Did you ever see anything like it? (Rhetorical question not calling for an answer).

This morning a Greek brought in three Macedonian coins. After I had laboriously identified them, and had refused to express myself as to their value, he pulled out your letter condemning them as forgeries, which made their examination worth while.

Sincerely yours,

L D Caskey

August 20, 1931.

L. D. Caskey, Esq.
Curator of Classical Art
Boston Museum of Fine Arts
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Caskey:

When I spoke to Mr. Newell about having copies of our monographs in your library he quite agreed with me that this was very desirable, and, under separate cover, I am sending you the ones dealing with classical coins. We hope that these may prove of some value to your inquirers.

I meant to tell you when I talked with you how glad we were to find that you had been helping the staff out at Wheaton in their effort to do some educating along archaeological lines. They seem to let no opportunity go by them and we too are trying to aid where we can.

With cordial regards,

SN:SG